

# BROOKLYN BACKLASH

## As Dumbo's Galapagos plans arts empire, Detroit offers cold shoulder

By Michael Randazzo  
for The Brooklyn Paper

DETROIT — Former Dumbo arts space Galapagos is barging into the Detroit area like it owns the place and could foster the same kind of gentrification it fled in Brooklyn, according to Motor City artists who are leery of the recent transplant.

Galapagos decamped in December, citing rent increases from landlord Two Trees, which had offered it discounted rates since it moved from Williamsburg in 2008. Now it is planning a veritable arts archipelago, most of it in a small city surrounded by Detroit called Highland Park. The team has bought up nine buildings, including eight adjacent ones in Highland Park, several of which formerly comprised a community college, and one in Detroit proper, all for less than \$1 million, according to director Robert Elmes. There the new arrivals plan to build galleries, performance spaces, studios, and eventually loft apartments, plus a supersized version of the venue's signature indoor lake. But locals are highly skeptical, in part because of Elmes's lofty, New York-centric rhetoric about making Motown a national arts destination, which they say is tone-deaf and overlooks the people already living there.

The founder of an artist group with members in Detroit and New York called Playground Detroit is one such suspicious Michigander.

"There needs to be a deeper look at what his motives are and what he hopes to do here," said Paulina Petkoski, a Detroit native who spent eight years in Brook-



Galapagos director Robert Elmes has his work cut out for him after buying nine buildings in Detroit and neighboring Highland Park to create a complex that he predicts will help replace Brooklyn as an arts destination one day.

lyn pursuing a career in fashion and returned home last July. "I hope that it's a positive thing for the city of Detroit and for Highland Park."

Galapagos's arrival made a splash in Detroit, and Elmes's statements raised the hackles of creative types who have long toiled in the cash-strapped city, where the murder rate is 10 times New York's and officials floated the idea of privatizing water and selling off the art museum's interna-

tionally renowned collection to bring it out of bankruptcy.

"Cultural scenes need three things: time, space, and people," Elmes told The Brooklyn Paper in December, his opinion of the cultural aptitude of Detroit's 713,000 residents apparently not registering very high. "In Detroit there's time and space. And the people are coming."

Galapagos's arrival sent one Detroit designer into a rage, prompting him to bang out an angry blog

post blasting Elmes's depiction of Detroit, saying the move drew attention away from a struggling Highland Park arts center, and griping that Elmes should hire designers from Detroit, not New York.

"F--- you. Seriously, go f--- yourselves," Dylan Box wrote. "If you can give me a good reason to believe that you remember what it's like to be an artist and not just a wealthy venue owner, I'll apologize, but until

then, you can piss off."

Box did end up apologizing after Elmes read the rant and the two had a two-hour sitdown. The conversation prompted the blogger to declare Elmes truly supportive of artists and deem his depiction of the newcomer as a "dangerous or speculative real estate developer" to be "pretty off base and unfair."

One Detroit gallery director who lived in New York in the 1990s said the ire directed at Galapagos



Galapagos Art Space's former home in Dumbo.

is understandable, but it is nothing personal.

"I don't really think the reaction, positive or negative, really relates so much to Galapagos as to an idea that by moving from Brooklyn to Detroit Galapagos somehow puts its stamp on a Detroit art community that has been a thriving, vital, energetic community for decades," said Michelle Perron, director of Center Galleries, Kresge Arts at Detroit's College for Creative Studies. "I think people are feeling turned off by the notion that without Galapagos we wouldn't be very interesting."

Elmes, for his part, thinks he has experience living with gentrification that Detroiters can learn from, and that the city and Highland Park are like Williamsburg was 20 years ago when he started Galapagos there.

"I'll take all my experience from New York City and apply it here," Elmes said during an hour-long drive around his new Highland Park 'hood. "I think if you rewound New York City to 1990, you'd find Detroit."

The trick for artists, he said, is to invest in real estate early so that they don't get priced out when outsiders get wise to the cool environment they have created. Galapagos fled rising rents in Williamsburg

in 2007, before leaving Brooklyn entirely.

Box said Detroiters should take heed.

"He's got a unique perspective on the matter that a lot of Detroit artists — myself included — have missed because we haven't lived through gentrification of a neighborhood from start to finish," he said.

Elmes and Galapagos are hardly the first Brooklyn transplants to take up residence in Detroit.

There's such a constant flow of travelers between the two cities that four years ago Petkoski started a Facebook page to arrange ride-shares between them. The page now has 306 members posting a steady stream of requests for transportation and companionship.

The first phase of Elmes's plan is set to be done by late summer 2016, in time for the first big art show of what he wants to be a biennial. He is also looking for investors to build the final, residential portion of the complex.

Despite her skepticism, Petkoski said she could be won over.

"Robert is a person with a lot of experience in making a large hub for artists and creatives that Detroit could benefit from," she said. "It just depends on how it's executed."



New Brooklyn Children's Museum head Stephanie Wilchfort on the roof, where an addition is currently under construction.

# Cradle will rock

## New children's museum head has big plans

By Matthew Perlman  
The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Children's Museum is growing up, but it's not forgetting its roots.

That's the message the 116-year-old kids institution's new leader wants to send following a scathing New York Times article, in which current and former staffers accused museum management of forsaking its working-class neighbors in Crown Heights in favor of outside-the-neighborhood expansions and programming changes aimed at hooking gentrifying transplants — and their spending power. The museum is getting an annex in Dumbo, but it is also working on three projects on its home campus in Crown Heights, which Steph-

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

anie Wilchfort, the newly minted president, said shows how committed her team is to serving all Brooklynites.

"Before we do anything in Dumbo, we're opening a 20,000-square-foot performance space that will serve the neighborhood here," she said. "We love our neighborhood. We value our neighborhood. But we consider all of Brooklyn our community."

The performance space Wilchfort mentioned is part of a new \$8.5 million rooftop pavilion, that will be able to fit 700 people, and also includes a play area and a

nature walk. The project began in 2008 and is being funded by money from the city and state. Wilchfort expects it to open later this year and hopes to host a series of dance parties on the roof during the inaugural season. Eventually, the space is set to be used for environmentally oriented programming, such as live animal demonstrations or science fairs, as well as public performances focused on particular cultures.

The museum also has plans to reopen a children's garden that has been shuttered since 2013 because of structural problems with a retaining wall.

The wall is predicted to cost \$3.5 million to repair, and after that work is done, additional money will be spent for landscaping and a playground, Wilchfort



Kids investigate a water feature at the Brooklyn Children's Museum shortly after an expansion in 2008.

said. She hopes to open the green space by 2017.

Another big project planned for the Crown Heights building is a 200-seat indoor auditorium set to open in 2019. Costing \$6.7 See **MUSEUM** on page 2

# Brooklyn-Queens caress-way

## Love-locks trend spreads to pedestrian bridge over freeway

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

The trend of lovebirds affixing padlocks to Brooklyn's scenic bridges has spread to a decidedly un-picturesque pedestrian bridge over the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway in Carroll Gardens.

One romance expert who has long railed against the so-called "love lock" fad suggested that sweethearts swooning in the cloud of freeway exhaust would do better to mark their bond with actual criminal activity.

"I don't think it's a good way to show your love," said Dave Colon, editor of the website Brooklyn, who has long used his platform to attack the practice. "If you want to vandalize something, go whole hog and carve your name in it or something."

About two dozen of the locks hung from the chain-link of the overpass between Monsignor Delvicio Place and Summit Street on



Couples have been leaving tokens of their love on a not particularly romantic pedestrian overpass above the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway in Carroll Gardens.

March 12. Some had been there long enough to have rusted thoroughly.

Lovers and haters of the locks

may argue over their merit as a symbol of undying commitment, but to road officials, the mementos pose a hazard. When Department

of Transportation workers took to the Brooklyn Bridge last summer to take down legions of the locks, the agency warned couples that

the devices threaten the span's structural integrity, and motorists passing below. A department spokeswoman reiterated the agency's stance last week.

"DOT discourages people from leaving locks or any other objects on any of our bridges, as doing so can pose a danger to the structure," she said.

Some argue the practice is an import from Paris, where the problem is so pernicious that the City of Love's tourism website once pleaded for visitors to find other ways to express their everlasting romance, and workers had to remove sections of a footbridge's railing because it was in danger of collapsing under the locks' weight. Last summer, the tourist-embraced trend took hold on the Manhattan and Williamsburg bridges, and as far afield as Prospect Park.

Despite the strong feelings the fasteners engender in some, most passersby we quizzed on the bridge couldn't give a hoot what people do with their padlocks.

"If people want to do it, I guess it's okay," Carroll Gardens resident Paul Cerato said.



# Editor's farewell

By Nathan Tempey  
The Brooklyn Paper

When I was preparing to move to New York, more recently than I care to admit, I combed the internet for big-name news outlets where I might be able to intern. I was 22, with no connections in the city beyond some friends of friends, and no credentials beyond a few articles for the student paper at

the University of New Orleans, and for New Orleans publications no one outside of that city ever heard of.

In the course of my research, I learned two things: one, it is very difficult to get anyone to give you the time of day when cold-calling New York media outlets with such a resume; and two, most of those that do take interns ad-

See **EDITOR** on page 11





Photo by Stefano Giovannini

(Left to right) A cement truck flipped over on Varick Street on Tuesday morning. Copper Scrap Inc. worker Peng Chin scooped up spilled cement from the driveway of his workplace, and, trying to make the best of things, filled a pothole on the block with some of the stray concrete.



# Fixing a hole

When cement truck flips in W’burg, seeing opportunity

**By Danielle Furfaro**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

A cement truck driver injured his back on Tuesday morning when the loaded truck he was driving tipped over, spilling wet cement all over Varick Street in Williamsburg, cement company and Fire Department officials said.

The crash occurred at 11:45 am as the driver of the American Transit Mix Corp was maneuvering between Ten Eyck Street and Metropolitan Avenue, according to the FDNY. Emergency medical personnel transported the man to Elmhurst Hospital Center, fire officials said and workers at neighboring Copper Scrap Inc. set to shoveling the sea of cement out of their driveway.

Figuring he would make the best of the mess, Copper Scrap employee Peng Chin scooped some of the cement into a pothole on Varick Street.

A tow company righted the cement truck around 2:15 pm, according to fire officials.

# KINGS THEATRE

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<p><b>APRIL 10</b></p> <p><b>DANCE HALL RISING</b></p>  <p><b>MAVADO</b> <b>CAPLETON</b> <b>LADY SAW</b> SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST <b>MATISYAHU</b></p>	<p><b>APRIL 11</b></p> <p><b>VOICES IN CONCERT</b></p>  <p><b>FANTASIA</b> THE AMERICAN IDOL WINNER <b>TESSANNE CHIN</b> THE VOICE WINNER</p>	<p><b>APRIL 12</b></p> <p><b>FIRST IMPRESSION</b></p>  <p><b>KES THE BAND</b> <b>KERWIN DUBOIS</b> <b>OLATUNJI, RAVI B</b> <b>LAVA MAN , MR. KILLER</b> AND MORE TO BE ADDED</p>	<p><b>MAY 9</b></p> <p><b>MOTHERS DAY</b></p>  <p><b>O'JAYS</b> FEATURING <b>HAROLD MELVIN'S</b> <b>BLUE NOTES</b></p>
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## MUSEUM...

*Continued from page 1*

million, the facility is supposed to host school groups and family-friendly performances.

The Dumbo space, being called the BCM Studio, will occupy the ground floor of a new 12-story residential building on John Street.

The site of that building was once used for a temporary art installation involving a field of clover, which may or may not have served as the last meal for some goats that were set out to graze, then picked up by a van belonging to a halal meat company under mysterious circumstances.

The museum is getting the Dumbo space for \$1 per year, and it will be built out by the building’s developer, Alloy. Wilchfort said she is still hammering out the specifics about what kind of programming will go there, but she wants to see a hands-on learning environment that incorporates elements of the arts and sciences.

“The idea is to create an interdisciplinary space that stands at the intersection of STEM and the arts,” she said.

Some of the exhibits at the annex will be free, while other programming will cost parents a fee.

Wilchfort said this is the same model employed at the home campus, where 30 percent of the 250,000 visitors each year do not pay admission, because they are either attending a free event or come on Thursdays between 2 pm and 5 pm, when it is free to get in.

The museum currently has a full-time staff of 35 employees, and 40 part-timers. Wilchfort said they are devoted and thrifty.

“They do amazing things on a shoestring budget,” she said.

She noted that the new space will be about one-sixtieth the size of the original.

The 2008 economic collapse hit the museum hard, prompting a prolonged series of budget cuts that led to 25 layoffs, as the Times reported. But Wilchfort said staffing the Dumbo outpost should not strain the institution very much.

“At 1,700-square-feet, it’s a true a studio,” she said. “We’re not talking about a tremendous amount of additional staffing. It will not create a meaningful diversion of resources.”



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# Refuge on the market

Officials: Fort Greene community center’s days numbered

By James Crugnale  
for The Brooklyn Paper

A Fort Greene building that has housed daycare and senior centers for four decades is up for rent to the highest bidder because the city failed to reach a lease renewal deal, according to administrators of the city-funded programs.

The upheaval comes over the protest of 75 neighborhood children, seniors, jazz musicians, and officials who rallied outside City Hall on Monday afternoon, demanding city managers save the Fort Greene Council’s 43-year-old community center at 966-972 Fulton St. The landlord had said he would open up bidding if the city did not agree to a lease by Monday night, which puts on hand said city negotiators had a moral obligation to.

“The services provided by the Fort Greene Council are incredibly important for our community,” said Public Advocate Letitia James, the neighborhood’s former councilwoman. “Hundreds of seniors, children, and families depend on this center. The city must find funding to keep this — and other centers like it — open.”

The building is home to the Grace A. Harewood Senior Center and the Young Minds Day Care Center, which the



Photo by Stefano Giovannini



(Above) A youngster joins the City Hall rally to save the Fort Greene Council’s senior and daycare centers on March 16. (Left) Activist Viola Plummer, center left, corrals Mayor De Blasio, demanding that he intervene in lease negotiations.

Fort Greene Council says serve about 200 people per day, as well as Jazz 966, a jazz club that runs out of the senior

center on Friday nights. The lease is coming up and the city has balked at the landlord’s increase, which is still well below market rate, the group’s reps have said.

The area’s current councilwoman said it is not too late for the city to step in and save the center.

“We have to make sure this lease is renegotiated,” Laurie Cumbo said. “I never enter a battle I don’t intend on winning!”

The man who runs Jazz 966 said the rally’s turnout was encouraging, and an extension of the lively spirit at the club that has hosted such greats as Wynton Marsalis.

“This afternoon will go down in history,” Valle says. “[Jazz 966] is a place that swings and that’s a fact.”

Some regular performers turned out to show their support for the venue.

“We can’t lose this,” jazz vocalist Steve Crocinity said.

At one point, Mayor De Blasio walked past the protest, and demonstrators buttonholed him, demanding he address the problem. Hizzoner said he needed more information before he could respond.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Citywide Administrative Services said last week that negotiations are still ongoing, but that officials are not yet close to reaching a deal.

On Tuesday morning, the Fort Greene Council’s chairman and executive director said no deal had been reached.

Despite the optimism of rally attendees, the chairman, Sam Pinn, said that the situation is dire, as the landlord is already preparing signs to advertise the property and the city’s administrative agency has reduced its lease request for the daycare center from three years to one.

“It appears to have gotten worse,” he said.

The Fort Greene Council director concurred, saying that building owner Jim Argento wants the group to remain where it is, but can’t agree to the city’s low offers.

“Negotiations are not going well,” Claudette Macey said. “The landlord wants us to stay here but he can’t wait.”

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## Murder in Gowanus

Witnesses report hearing a single gunshot

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

Someone shot a man to death on Saturday afternoon in front of the Gowanus Houses building where he lived, police said.

Cops received a 911 call just after 3 pm and responding officers found 21-year-old Leroy Olmstead lying on

the pavement with a single gunshot wound to the torso in front of 423 Baltic St., according to the authorities.

Paramedics transported Olmstead to Lutheran Medical Center and doctors there pronounced him dead on arrival, police said.

Police declined to release further details about the shooting but people at the

scene on Saturday reported hearing just one shot.

The shooting is the first murder of the year in the 76th Precinct, which encompasses Red Hook, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Boerum Hill, and parts of Gowanus. One murder took place in the area during 2014.

— with Jason Speakman



Photo by Jason Speakman  
Leroy Olmstead was gunned down in front of the Gowanus Houses building where he lived.

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# Worker steals \$81K in MetroCards D'town

**84TH PRECINCT**  
*Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown*

A former employee of a Boerum Place foster care organization stole \$81,220 worth of MetroCards between Jun. 1, 2014 and Jan. 31 of this year, officers said.

Administrators of the center between Atlantic Avenue and State Street said the ex-worker was in charge of the organization's transit account. She made erratic purchases of 21,857 subway passes while working for them, and only 5,613 of the cards were used, according to a police report. That leaves 16,244 cards, worth \$5 a piece, unaccounted for, the report says.

**Oh, baby**

A sneak stole a woman's purse from her baby stroller while she shopped in a Fulton Street department store on March 2, police said.

The victim told cops she was shopping in the store between Pearl and Jay streets at noon and had her pocketbook in her stroller. When she went to check on the baby, she noticed the bag was gone, police said. The purse contained \$320 in cash, debit, and credit cards, cops said.

**Shoestring**

A quick culprit stole a woman's purse while she

**POLICE BLOTTER**  


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horn Street public benefit office on March 3, according to the authorities.

The victim said she was in the office between Bond and Hoyt streets at 4 pm, and put the phone in her coat pocket while she helped her son get some water from the water fountain. She checked her pocket 40 minutes later, and the device was gone, cops said.

**Auto-phile**

A burglar broke into a man's car on March 3 while it was parked in a Hoyt Street parking lot, NYPD officials said.

The victim said he left the car in the lot between Fulton and Livingston streets at 5:30 pm and returned at 8:20 the same night. When he came back, he saw that the rear driver's-side window was smashed and that his laptop along with some paperwork had been taken, police said.

**Tech mine**

Prowlers stole a bunch of electronics from a Jay Street office sometime overnight on March 4, the authorities said.

An employee for the company between John and Plymouth streets said he or she locked up at 7:15 pm, and when the worker came in at 9:30 the next morning the front-door lock was broken.

The bandits made off with a 70-inch television, two laptops, two electronic tablets, and a bunch of peripherals, police said.

**Slash and dash**

A fiend slashed a man in the face with a knife at the corner of Bergen and Smith streets on March 7, cops said.

The victim said he was walking to the subway at 1:30 am when the maniac came up and cut him. The villain scrambled and the victim walked to the emergency department where Long Island College Hospital used to be for treatment, according to officers.

**Hell-bent**

Three crooks lifted a total of nine leather jackets from a Fulton Street clothing store on March 7, a report says.

A worker at the store between Elm Place and Hoyt Street said the tricky trio came

in at 11:17 am, grabbed the coats, which the store sells for \$300 a piece, and skedaddled, police said.

— **Matthew Perlman**

**88TH PRECINCT**  
*Fort Greene–Clinton Hill*

**Clothes call**

A crew of muggers jumped a man and stole his clothes on DeKalb Avenue on March 14, cops said.

The 60-year-old victim said that he was at S. Oxford Street at 12:20 am when, out of nowhere, someone hit him in the back with a piece of wood and knocked him to the ground.

The fiends grabbed \$800 in cash out of his pocket, his leather coat, and his hooded sweatshirt, then scrambled, according to a police report.

The victim walked to Brooklyn Hospital Center, reported the crime, and got treated for injuries to his leg, according to the authorities.

**Disrespect elder**

An armed goon attacked an elderly man and tried to rob him on Fulton Street in the early morning of March 15, law enforcement officials said.

The 60-year-old victim said that he was between Grand Avenue and Downing Street at

6:45 am when the brute threw him to the ground and jammed a gun in his face.

"Give me everything you have got," the scoundrel supposedly said.

The victim got up and ran without handing over his stuff, and eluded the rude dude, a report says.

**Tight spot**

A trio of toughs put a victim in a headlock and stole his wallet and phone on Fulton Street on March 14, according to the NYPD.

The victim said he was at Grand Avenue at 11:45 pm when the threatening threesome came up behind him and one put him in a headlock. Another of the assailants whipped out a gun and leveled it at the victim's head, cops said.

The victim handed over his wallet and phone, and the ga-loots ran off down Grand Avenue, according to officers.

**Uninvited**

A burglar broke into a S. Elliott Place woman's house on March 12 and stole her camera, laptop, PlayStation, ski goggles, and jewelry, police said.

The victim said that she left her apartment between Lafayette and Dekalb avenues at noon to go to work, and when she came back at 11:30 pm, she found her front door broken and her prop-

erty all gone.

The woman said that she does not have any idea of who broke in, according to a report.

**Not a prayer**

A sneak pried into a woman's Hanson Place apartment on March 13 when she left for a few minutes to go pray, according to the NYPD.

The 39-year-old victim said that she left the door of her apartment at Ashland Place unlocked when she went to perform her devotions in a prayer room on a different floor of the building at 12:45 pm.

When she came back an hour later, she found her laptop, iPad, camera, Cartier watch, and cash all taken, a police report says.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

**68TH PRECINCT**  
*Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights*

**Con Ed con man**

A jive-talking jerk scammed a Third Avenue woman out of \$1,000 on March 11, cops said.

The con man called the woman living between Bay Ridge Parkway and 76th Street in Bay Ridge at noon, posing as a Con Ed worker and telling the woman she owed the utility company money, police said.

The woman bought two pre-paid debit cards totaling \$1,000 and told the man the cards' serial numbers, according to law enforcement officials. The victim is not proficient in English, a police report says.

**Sleight of hand**

A sneak picked a guy's pocket at the corner of Ft. Hamilton Parkway and 65th Street on March 10, according to the authorities.

The victim was strolling the Bay Ridge corner at 6:30 pm when a man bumped into him, police said. Moments later, the guy realized his wallet was gone from a coat pocket, a report says.

— **Max Jaeger**

**94TH PRECINCT**  
*Greenpoint–Northside*

**Not his style**

A thief posing as a sneaker buyer jacked a pair of high-end kicks from a teen on Graham Avenue on March 11, cops said.

The 14-year-old victim said that he made arrangements to sell a pair of Balenciaga sneakers to a guy he met on Facebook, but when the goon turned up between Cook and Debevoise streets at 4:45 pm, he grabbed the shoes and tried to walk away. The youngster followed the fiend, who turned and threatened him, officers said.

"This can get physical if you want," the scoundrel snarled, and he kept walking, according to the authorities.

**Hot temper**

Police arrested a woman who they say sprayed Mace into a car with a toddler inside on Berry Street at N. Third Street on March 9.

The tot's mother said she was sitting in the passenger seat of the car at 3:36 pm when the suspect, a rival with a beef dating back two years, walked up and blasted her and her daughter with the chemical spray.

Officers slapped the cuffs on the lady and charged her with assault.

Paramedics took the victims to Beth Israel Medical Center for treatment.

**Breaking the ice**

Cops cuffed a woman who they say attacked her sister with an ice chipper in a N. Third Street apartment on March 11.

The victim said that she was in her apartment between

Kent and Wythe avenues at 10:20 am when her sister cut her in the arm with the tool. Emergency medical personnel took the victim to Woodhull Medical Center, and police arrested her sister and charged her with assault.

**Domestic fight**

Police arrested a woman after she allegedly attacked her boyfriend with a knife in a N. Seventh Street pad on March 13.

The 25-year-old victim said he was at his apartment between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue at 12:20 pm when his girlfriend came at him with a blad.

The guy tried to grab the knife, but she pulled it away and cut his hand, according to a police report. Paramedics took the man to Woodhull Medical Center and police charged the woman with assault.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

**76TH PRECINCT**  
*Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook*

**Not from here**

Police arrested a Virginia man on gun possession charges on March 16 after they say they showed up at his hotel room on Sebring Street to discuss a theft he had reported and spotted a loaded gun on a table, according to a report.

Responding to a call about a theft at the inn between Columbia and Richards streets at 10:20 am, officers entered the man's room with his permission, they said. Upon entering the room, they noticed the pistol sitting on the table, and the man explained that the gun was his and he had just arrived in Brooklyn from Virginia, the officers said.

**Snatch and dash**

A thief stole a pair of purses from a luxury store on Atlantic Avenue on March 17, a report says.

The shoplifter entered the department store between Clinton and Court streets with three other shady characters at about 11:20 am and snatched the two Yves Saint Laurent handbags, worth a total of \$2,640, then scrambled, cops said.

Store security cameras caught the theft on tape, cops said.

**Walk-in closet**

A sneak looted valuable duds from a common-area closet in a residential building on Sackett Street on March 16, according to law enforcement officials.

The victim left his home between Henry and Hicks streets at 1 am, and upon his return at 8:30 am, he found \$9,373 worth of clothing taken from an unlocked basement closet, police said.

Among the fancy items were a Prada suit worth \$2,000, 12 ties worth \$500, six pairs of pants worth \$800, and 45 T-shirts worth \$1,900, per police.

**Making headline**

A car thief drove off with a newspaper delivery man's ride at Smith and Union streets while the man was in the middle of a drop-off on March 14, cops said.

The delivery man, an indispensable link in the chain between journalists and readers of print publications, left his red 2006 Honda Pilot idling as he brought a stack of papers to their destination, the NYPD said.

The worker saw the bandit speed off in the sports utility vehicle, which contained the victim's Social Security card, two passports, a driver's license, a Samsung tablet worth \$450, a phone worth \$160, and the victim's daughter's birth certificate, among other documents, according to a police report.

— **Noah Hurowitz**



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# On a bigger stage

## Performing-arts group lands on its feet in G’point

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

Sometimes getting thrown out on the street can be a good thing. Longtime Williamsburg theater and dance company and rehearsal space Triskelion Arts lost its lease in 2013, but it is now up and running in a bigger, better space in Greenpoint.

“Everything works better, there is more space to do it in, and there is more light to see everything,” said Triskelion board member Mike Allen. “This all worked out for the best.”

The group had been at its original N. 11th Street location for 13 years when it got the boot, and starting last summer, members spent nearly a



Photo by Stefano Giovannini

Triskelion Arts director Abby Bender raises a glass — and a bottle — to the group’s new building on Calyer Street in Greenpoint. The troupe lost its Williamsburg lease in 2013.

year renovating the new space at 106 Calyer St. They initially rented a whole floor, then took over additional rooms in the building when tenants moved out, and they now have more legroom for about the same rent as they paid before, Allen said.

The troupe, which puts on its own shows and rents the facility out for rehearsals, now has access to a large theater, a small theater, and two rehearsal spaces.

“We have so many things going on here at all the time,” Allen said.

A crowd showed up on Saturday night to celebrate the opening of the new building and Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D–Greenpoint) cut the ribbon on the new big stage.

# Cuomo flunks at this school

## Protesters: His education policies stink for kids, teachers

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

These students, parents, and teachers give the governor’s education policies an F.

Demonstrators gathered outside more than two dozen Brooklyn public schools on March 12 to show and tell how awful they think Gov. Cuomo’s school programs are, particularly his proposals to increase the emphasis on standardized testing in ranking teachers so that half of their assessments are tied to test scores, and to weaken tenure.

Those policies galvanized teachers unions, perennial foes of such changes, but also the parents of children with learning disabilities who worry that teachers hustling for higher test grades might forsake students with less reliably high test scores.

“My son has dyslexia and probably wouldn’t do well on tests,” said Ellie Miller, a Bedford-Stuyvesant resident who protested with her daughter outside PS 20 in Clinton Hill. “There are wonderful teachers who can spend time to help him, but he would be a detriment to them. They shouldn’t be penalized for serving students who wouldn’t do well on tests.”

The protests took place at



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Public Advocate Letitia James joins students at a pro-teacher rally at PS 20 in Clinton Hill on March 12.

schools in Park Slope, Clinton Hill, Carroll Gardens, and other neighborhoods. Students, parents, teachers, and some politicians linked arms to form human chains around the schools.

Cuomo has tied the reforms to \$1.1 billion in in-

creased school aid.

Asked to respond to hundreds of families holding pro-teacher signs aloft, a spokeswoman for Cuomo dismissed the protests as the tantrum of “special interests.”

“The governor is fighting to reform a system that

has condemned 250,000 children to failing schools over the last 10 years,” said Cuomo spokeswoman Dani Lever. “Frankly, the louder special interests scream — and today they were screaming at the top of their lungs — the more we know we’re right.”

# Drugs and my daughter

Twelve students — most from my daughter’s college — recently landed in hospitals after taking tainted doses of the recreational drug Molly, a form of Ecstasy. Two of those kids were airlifted to large medical facilities because of the seriousness of their condition. All survived.

This episode received enormous press coverage but I knew about it from other parents e-mailing and stopping me on the street, checking on my daughter and sharing concern over her school, which seemingly has serious drug problems and a reputa-

tion that is in the toilet.

My friends are acting as if, because drug-use-gone-bad happened at my daughter’s school, it means students at other schools are safe, aren’t using the stuff, and are immune from harm for now.

Parents, I’m convinced, are superstitious pagans, believing in evil furies and demons in order to explain the seemingly random tragedies that befall children, looking for something to blame. I do this too, reacting to what hap-



## The Dad

By Scott Sager

pens to someone else’s kid with genuine horror and regret but also with the tiniest bit of relief, as if it means my girls are protected from the gods of destruction, their appetite sated with the pain and suffering of someone else’s child for the moment.

The reality, folks, is that

drugs are on every college campus and students have access to them.

The truth is that other young people will be harmed — by driving drunk or by drunk drivers and from ingesting illegal substances. No matter how hard we look for a reason why it was those 12 kids, there isn’t one except that on that night, they were the ones who happened to end up with the tainted pills and ate them.

I hope my daughter isn’t taking ridiculous chances with her health and safety. She is, however, 20 years old and still prone to intense bouts of curiosity, and subject to episodes of peer pressure and the occasionally overwhelming desire for excitement.

There are things I expect from her — not to drive impaired or stand in snow in bare feet — reasonable steps she is capable of taking. As much as I would like to send her a charm or talisman that can protect her from unexpected and unpredictable consequences of her actions, there are none.

No parent wants to get that call from a hospital or the police but just because 12 parents’ phones rang a few weeks ago. The rest of us aren’t protected for even one night.

My job as a parent is to manage my fears and live with my nightmares without heaping them on my girls. If it takes keeping out of the way of black cats or believing in wicked sprites and vengeful spirits, okay. I have to let my children live their lives, knowing deep down that no matter how many good luck charms I carry in my pockets, there is no protection from the random or unexpected.

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*For more information, visit [www.liu.edu/brooklyn](http://www.liu.edu/brooklyn)*

# Beyoncé it ain't so!

## DA: Merchant group head stole \$ to buy concert tix

**By Noah Hurowitz**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

The former head of a Flatbush Avenue merchant group serving Park Slope and Prospect Heights embezzled tens of thousands of dollars from the group and used the money to fund spending sprees, according to prosecutors.

Sharon Davidson, former director of the North Flatbush Business Improvement District, faces charges of stealing \$85,691 from the organization's coffers and using her filthy lucre to buy Beyoncé tickets, clothes, shoes, jewelry, and more. Cops arrested her at her Long Island home on Monday. The borough's top lawyer blasted Davidson for allegedly taking advantage of the businesses that pay the group to provide supplemental trash pickup, street sweeping, decoration, and advertising.

"The 150 small business owners who joined the North Flatbush BID paid into it with the expectation that those funds would be used to promote their businesses," District Attorney Ken Thompson said in a statement. "Instead, the defendant allegedly used the BID's accounts as her own



Sharon Davidson

personal piggy bank, spending nonstop on everything from airline tickets to chocolates. She will now be held accountable."

Davidson pleaded not guilty on March 16 on charges of grand larceny, forgery, and scheming to defraud, and was released without bail. She is due back in court on May 13. She maintains her innocence, her lawyer told the news website DNAinfo.

"She looks forward to vindicating herself in court," Morris Shamuil said to a reporter for the outlet.

The merchant group represents Flatbush Avenue businesses from Atlantic Avenue to Grand Army Plaza. In her post

as director, Davidson drew a salary of \$30,000, but she allegedly padded that by withdrawing cash from the group's account, writing fraudulent checks to herself, and depositing checks meant for the organization directly into her own bank account, according to court documents.

As executive director of the group Davidson had control of the group's payroll services, bank accounts, and credit cards, and used them liberally on personal expenses, prosecutors say. Davidson spent \$600 on the Beyoncé tickets, \$4,000 at the women's retailer Talbots, \$3,000 on the grocery-delivery service FreshDirect, \$400 on manicures and pedicures, and used Paypal to buy \$13,000 worth of clothing, shoes, and jewelry, prosecutors charge.

The organization's president said in a statement that prosecutors' summary of the case "speaks for itself."

"The North Flatbush Avenue BID is grateful to the NYC Department of Investigation and the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office for diligently pursuing this case and to the NYC Department of Small

Business Services for their continued support," Regina Cahill said. "The board of directors is hopeful that the organization will recover the loss and that justice will be served."

She also falsely claimed to be unemployed from November 2011 to February 2014, halting her own paychecks and collecting about \$5,000 in unemployment insurance at the same time as she was allegedly bilking her organization, according to the indictment. The unemployment claim was discovered during an audit of the group's finances by the Department of Small Business Services, the District Attorney's Office said.

In 2013, the Business Improvement District made \$154,000 in revenue, much of which comes from fees paid by member businesses, but the group ended that year in the red by about \$45,000. Davidson abruptly resigned from her position in 2013, according to reports.

Representatives of Davidson and the North Flatbush Business Improvement District did not return several calls for comment, as did several member businesses.

# Lodge & burn

## Bushwick darkroom gets fresh, wider-angle digs

**By Danielle Furfaro**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

This Bushwick photography facility is going large-format.

The Bushwick Community Darkroom, which a group of friends started in an apartment building basement four years ago, is moving into a roomier space that will allow the organization to expand its offerings, equipment, and classes. The darkroom has been operating out of small, leak-ridden

digs at the Loom building on Flushing Avenue at Knickerbocker Avenue for the past year, and organizers have rented new digs six blocks away on Troutman Street between Central and Evergreen avenues.

"Before, it was functional, but it was not pretty, and everyone was always bumping into each other," said volunteer Caleb Savage.

The group has two storage units full of equipment

it has never had the room to use, he said.

"It is very exciting to be able to set up all the stuff that we have," Savage said.

When the analog-philies found the new warehouse location, they put all of their energy into building it out.

The darkroom is set to reopen in early April, and give classes on color film processing and printing in addition to its black-and-white offerings. The arrangement is a big step up from before, when the facility's color-processing room could only accommodate one person at a time.

Darkroom founder Lucia Rollow got the project going in her basement in 2011 and offered memberships, expecting to draw a small group of the old-school-film faithful. But

membership soon ballooned to several dozen shutterbugs who still relish hand-printing photos in a red-lit, fume-filled room.

"People like the tangibility and that you are working with a series of actual objects," said Rollow. "They can see how their actions have an impact on the outcome of the image."

Members pay either \$75 a month plus a year membership and volunteer commitment, or \$115 monthly without a commitment. Members get 24-hour access to all of the darkroom processors and equipment. There is no paid staff and memberships cover the rent.

*For more information visit [www.bushwickcommunitydarkroom.com](http://www.bushwickcommunitydarkroom.com).*





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# Espresso yourself!

## Coffee fest brews in G'point

By Matthew Perlman  
The Brooklyn Paper

This event comes with some perks. The 10th annual Coffee and Tea Festival is set to boil over in Brooklyn on March 21 and 22. The caffeinated celebration, which has previously been held on the distant island of Manhattan, is moving to the Brooklyn Expo Center in Greenpoint this year. And the organizer said the move to Kings County is a welcome one. “Brooklyn is a great craft community for coffee and tea,” said Kristyn Dolan, the event manager for Starfish Junction Productions. “And the space is perfect.” Around 75 companies will be serving up their products at the two-day beverage bash, which Dolan expects to attract 7,000 people. And the borough will be roundly represented on its home turf. The neighborhood hosting the festival is serving up Eagle Street tea-maker Miss Tea Organics and coffee purveyor Cafe Grumpy, which has its roastery on Diamond Street. Toby’s Estate, a roaster and cafe from nearby Williamsburg, will also

be exhibiting. Toby’s has participated in the convention once before, and a company representative said the festival’s new location was so close, it had to come again. “It’s a good way to connect with existing customers and to meet new ones,” said Amie Raskin, a sales associate for Toby’s. Baristas from Toby’s will be serving up espresso drinks and cold-brew coffee during the fest, and its head roaster Clark LeCompte will also lead a workshop about pour-over home-brewing techniques, which costs an additional \$10. LeCompte will show participants the ins and outs of the Chemex, Hario V60, and BeeHouse manual drippers. To sweeten the deal, some borough condiment creators will also be at the fest, including long-time Fort Greene low-calorie sugar substitute Sweet’n Low, which also makes the In the Raw line of sweeteners. Coffee and Tea Festival NYC at the Brooklyn Expo Center [79 Franklin St. between Oak and Noble streets in Greenpoint, (631) 940-7290, [www.coffeeandteafestival.com/nyc](http://www.coffeeandteafestival.com/nyc)]. March 21-22 from 10 am-5 pm. \$25-\$35 per day.



Photo by Cate Dingley

**Shot gun:** Barista Justin Buschardt mans the espresso machine at Toby’s Estate, which will be at the Coffee and Tea Festival in Greenpoint.



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

**Deep cuts:** Josh Machlin of Obsolete Cinema is screening two of William Shatner’s lesser-known works at Freddy’s Bar in Park Slope on March 22.

# Beam them up, Freddy

## Bar celebrates obscure Shatner movies

By Max Jaeger  
The Brooklyn Paper

Boldly watch what no man has seen before. A couple of cinephiles are showing two of actor William Shatner’s lesser-known cuts for their annual celebration of the actor’s obscure oeuvre at Freddy’s Bar on March 22. The organizers of the Park Slope bar’s monthly screening night Obsolete Cinema said their third annual ShatShow will be a special one, because it falls on Shatner’s birthday. “On March 22, 1931, he came to the world in Montreal, and now we’re bringing him to Brooklyn,” said Obsolete Cinema co-founder Tony Nigro. Nigro and partner Joshua Machlin have been putting on Obsolete Cinema every month since 2011, and said the man best

known as Capt. James T. Kirk embodies what the zany movie night is all about. “He is a muse in the sense that here’s a guy who’s primarily known for one role — and, of course, that has blossomed over the years into various self-parodies — but he has a really deep career,” said Nigro. “He’s a hard-working actor and, despite that, he never really disappeared into his roles — he’s always Shatner.” The theme of this year’s ShatShow is “Sex, Drugs, and Shatner,” so the pair is showing 1961’s “The Explosive Generation” — where Shatner plays an overly encouraging sex-ed teacher — and the 1973 made-for-television movie adaptation of “Go Ask Alice” — in which he portrays the father of a drug-addled teen. Audience members at the last two ShatShows were not shy about doing

impressions of Shatner — best-known for his over-emoting, halting speech, and general scenery-chewing — but no one has actually gone the whole hog and dressed as the impresario of stage and screen, Nigro said. Not yet, anyway. “We get people doing Shatner impressions, but dressing up? God, I wish they would dress up,” he said. Typically, the duo screens movies in the Video Home System format, but Nigro and Machlin couldn’t find analog versions of this year’s Shatner flicks, so they had to settle for a marginally less obsolete medium. “DVD is practically obsolete too, so it’s good enough for us,” Nigro said. Obsolete Cinema ShatShow III at Freddy’s Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Park Slope, (718) 768-0131]. March 22 at 4 pm. Free.

### DANCE

## Free style



Johan Henders

Everybody dance now! Famed contemporary dance company the Mark Morris Dance Group is performing a series of shows at the Brooklyn Academy of Music next month, but the choreography isn’t just for professional rug-cutters. The Fort Greene troupe is also offering free dance lessons where regular Brooklynites can learn some of the moves from the shows themselves. The program, dubbed “Learn the Works, See the Works,” is intended to help the local community engage with the dance group, a company representative said. Plus, it is just a good time for participants and performers alike, she said. “We do it because it is fun,” said Nancy Umanoff, the group’s executive director. “One of the things that Mark Morris Dance Group is committed to is providing access to the arts for everyone and this is a way to get people in to learn and to show them some entertainment for less.” The classes are open to all ages and experience levels, and it is not unusual to see grandparents grooving next to preschoolers, Umanoff said. Between 20 and 50 boogie enthusiasts usually show up to the company’s cavernous James and Martha Duffy Performance Space, she said. The next class will be on March 21. Dancers Chelsea Acree and Sam Black will teach the students steps from the Mark Morris original “Spring Spring Spring,” a 2-year-old piece that the company will perform at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on April 23, 25, and 26. And everyone who participates gets a coupon for \$10 off to see an upcoming Mark Morris show. “Learn the Works, See the Works” at the Mark Morris Dance Group headquarters [3 Lafayette Ave. between Rockwell and Ashland places in Fort Greene, (718) 624-8400, [www.markmorrisdancegroup.org](http://www.markmorrisdancegroup.org)]. March 21 at 3 pm. Free. — Danielle Furfaro

### BOOKS

## Horror house

This is different kind of scary story. A Park Slope author has penned a new novel about the terrifying experience of apartment-hunting in Brooklyn. The book was inspired in part from her own experiences in the wilderness of New York’s rental market, the writer said. “This is your home you’re talking about,” said Lindsey Palmer, who will launch her novel “If We Lived Here” at Greenlight Bookstore in Fort Greene on March 25. “That is the essence of your feeling of safety and security. That’s hard to do already, but it is so much harder here.” “If We Lived Here” follows the travails of Nick and Emma, a 30-something couple planning to move in together and the absurd hoops they must jump through in order to put a roof over their heads. Palmer, who moved to New York a decade ago, said she has gone through six apartment hunts since then, and worked some of her own nightmares and leftover neuroses into the plot. She said her trials will be familiar to anyone who has suffered through the universal but still lonely process of finding a home in New York. “Everyone has experienced this, but you’re on your own,” she said. “I have such memories of being in the thick of it and having people tell me ‘It always works out,’ but that’s cold comfort when you’re thinking you’ll never find a place.” Lindsey Palmer at Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. at S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, [www.greenlightbookstore.com](http://www.greenlightbookstore.com)]. March 25 at 7:30 pm. Free. — Noah Hurowitz



Photo by Cate Dingley

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March. 20



**Goon dance**

Darlin', save the laugh dance for me at Triskelion Arts' annual Comedy in Dance Festival, where dancers and troupes perform choreography with a comedic bent. Performances at the fest, which runs through March 22, will incorporate magic, trick-roping, improv, slapstick, and even an old-time radio show.

8 pm at Triskelion Arts Muriel Schulman Theater [106 Calyer Street between Banker Street and Clifford Place in Greenpoint, (718) 389-3473, www.triskelion-arts.org]. \$16.

SATURDAY

March 21



**Lords of darkness**

Celebrate good times — and the people who create them. The annual Brooklyn Night-life Awards honors the performers, disc jockeys, bartenders, promoters and other vitamin D-eschewing folk who bring Brooklyn's nightlife to life. Even if you don't care who wins, the queer-focused event will include live music, dancers, and drag.

10 pm at Lot 45 (11 Troutman St. between Myrtle and Bushwick avenues in Bushwick, www.facebook.com/brooklyn-nightlifeawards). \$10.

SUNDAY

March 22



**Havana film nights**

Talk about red tape. BAMCinemtek's latest film series, Cuba: Golden '60s, kicks off this weekend and today's film is "Death of a Bureaucrat," a 1966 satire about government inefficiency. The series runs March 20–31 and highlights six other works created in the wake of the country's revolution.

2 pm, 4 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm at BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org. \$14.

MONDAY

March 23



**Coney ice-land**

Nothing says "Coney Island" like ice skating! Young figure-skating students from the Brooklyn Ice after-school program will wave goodbye to winter with a performance celebrating the People's Playground, alongside guest performers and hosted by Coney sideshow star Scott Baker.

6 pm at LeFrak Center [171 East Dr. at Ocean Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 462-0010], www.brooklyn-ice-skating-show.eventbrite.com. \$20 adults, \$10 kids.

WEDNESDAY

March 25



**Les biz**

If you've ever sat through a corporate training or promotional video, you know how bad — and unintentionally hilarious — they can be. But in the '60s and '70s, some companies took it way further, commissioning full-scale musicals to educate and motivate their staff. Spectacle will screen some classics of the genre from General Electric, Kellogg's, and more.

8 pm at Spectacle [124 S. Third St. at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg, www.spectacletheater.com]. \$5.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, MARCH 20

MUSIC, "KODO ONE EARTH TOUR: Mystery": Kodo combines centuries-old techniques of taiko drumming with precise movement and humor. \$25. 7:30 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene), www.bam.org.

EQUINOX CELEBRATION: Join the urban shaman Mama Donna Henes and put an egg on its end at the 40th annual egg-balancing ceremony. Plus music from Batala NYC, an all woman percussion band. 360 Eggs will be supplied. **Free.** 6:15 pm. Grand Army Plaza (Union Street between Flatbush Avenue and Prospect Park West in Park Slope), www.donnahenes.com.

THEATER, "BENGAL TIGER AT THE BAGHDAD ZOO": The darkly funny story of a former Iraqi gardener turned war-time interpreter and the colliding world of two American soldiers assigned to guard the lone tiger at the Baghdad Zoo. \$12 (\$10 students). 7:30 pm. New Workshop Theater at Brooklyn College [Campus Road at Hillel Place in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/theater.

SAT, MARCH 21

DANCE, NATIONAL DANCE THEATRE COMPANY OF JAMAICA: The troupe blends the folklore, music, and dance of Jamaica, Africa, and the American South with modern and classical forms. \$36–\$75. 8 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd. between Amersfort and Kenilworth places in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

TALK, "THE HISTORICAL ROOTS OF SPIRITUALITY IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN AMERICAN ART": Artist Danny Simmons moderates a panel discussion on spirituality in contemporary African American art. Panelists include artists, scholars, and curators. **Free.** 3 pm. The Skylight Gallery [1368 Fulton St. at Marcy Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636-6900], www.restorationplaza.org.

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

FRI, MARCH 20

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. MILWAUKEE BUCKS: \$30–\$3,000. 7:30 pm.

MON, MARCH 23

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. BOSTON CELTICS: \$22–\$3,000. 7:30 pm.

TUE, MARCH 24

MUSIC, NASH FM 94.7 PRESENTS NASH BASH: Featuring Cole Swindell, Gloriana, Michael Ray, and Jana Kramer. \$39–\$90. 7 pm.

620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights (917) 618-6100, www.barclayscenter.com.

THUR, MARCH 26

MUSIC, NEIL DIAMOND: \$30–\$175. 8 pm.

FRI, MARCH 27

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. CLEVELAND CAVALIERS: \$80–\$4,000. 7:30 pm.

SUN, MARCH 29

SPORTS, BROOKLYN NETS VS. LOS ANGELES LAKERS: \$40–\$4,000. 3:30 pm.

Shine on you crazy Neil Diamond: The hometown hero plays Barclays Center on March 26.

Associated Press / Evan Agostini / iVision

http://

Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

EASTER EGG HUNT: Kids join the hunt and visit with the Easter Bunny at this annual event. \$4 per child, pictures \$5 per child). 3 pm–5 pm. Our Lady of Grace School Yard [East Third Street and Avenue W in Gravesend, (718) 627-2020].

SUN, MARCH 22

THEATER, "THE TALLEST TREE IN THE FOREST": Daniel Beatty plays up to 40 characters in a solo play about the life story of Paul Robeson. \$25. 2 pm and 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

WEDDING CRASHERS SPRING WEDDING FAIR: Showcasing wedding options such as food trucks, bands, and photo booths for the modern couple. \$25. 11:30 am–3 pm. The Green Building (452 Union St. between Nevins and Bond streets in Gowanus), www.brooklynbased.com/wedding-crasher

BAY RIDGE SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADE: **Free.** 1 pm. Kick Off (Third Avenue at Marine Avenue in Bay Ridge), www.bayridgestpatricksdays.com.

MON, MARCH 23

READING, ALISA SOLOMON: Author of "Wonder of Wonders: A Cultural History of Fiddler on the Roof" traces the path of the story of Tevye the milkman and his rise to blockbuster fame. **Free.** 7 pm. Theatre for a New Audience, Polonsky Shakespeare Center [262 Ashland Pl. between Fulton Street and Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (212) 229-2819], www.tfana.org.

See 9 DAYS on page 10

CNG

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# He’s got secular healing

## B’hurst author describes leaving the Hasidim

By Vanessa Ogle  
The Brooklyn Paper

This author is in the spotlight, losing his religion. Shulem Deen is a former member of an insular Hasidic sect of Judaism, the Skverers. The father of five, who now lives in Bensonhurst, decided he wanted to leave the faith — but not his family — to pursue a career in writing. He shares his struggle to transition into the secular world in his new memoir, “All Who Go Do Not Return,” which he will discuss at BookCourt on March 24.

**Vanessa Ogle:** What was the most difficult part of leaving the Hasidic community?

**Shulem Deen:** The most difficult part was making the choice. I had to make a decision — I was married, I had five children, and I had to make this decision and say, “I no longer want to be part of this community.” And that was not an easy thing to do.

I had already been partially out. I started thinking differently. I no longer believed in the principles and the dogmas and in their worldview. I had also been expelled from my community so I was no longer attached to the place where I spent most of my life. I was out intellectually and emotionally and certainly spiritually and somewhat out physically and geographically, so I had to make that final decision to say, “Can I be in this world? Can I accept what this will do to me and my family?”

And in the end, I decided I can — and I have to — because it was really the only option to live something resembling a fulfilling life.

**VO:** What are some of the everyday decisions others might take for granted that you struggled with when you joined the secular world?

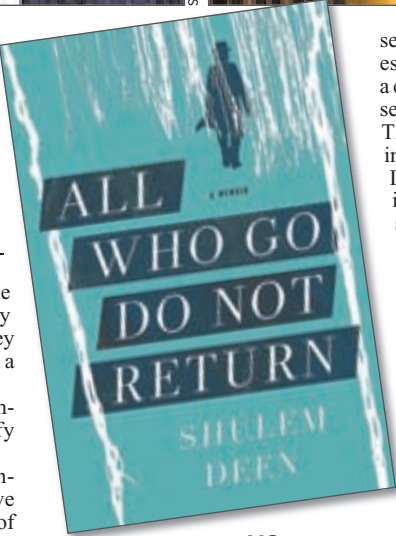
**SD:** It was a completely new world. You know how sometimes people watch courtroom dramas and they think they can become lawyers? Really, you can’t because you can’t become a lawyer from reading courtroom dramas or watching them. In the same way, you can’t become a secular person just by watching a lot of movies about secular life. That is something that was surprising for me to realize — that I simply did not know what non-Hasidic life was like to live. It took quite a while for me to really adjust to



Shulem Deen

Photo by Pearl Gabai

**Hat’s off:** (Pictured left to right) Shulem Deen when he was still a member of the Hasidic Skverer sect. And Deen now. The Bensonhurst author will be discussing his new memoir “All Who Go Do Not Return” at BookCourt on March 24.



the outside world — the way people lived, the way people speak, the way people engage with each other, they way people buy clothes. It was just a completely new world for norms.

**VO:** Are you still with your family? Do your children still identify as Hasidic?

**SD:** My children do still identify as Hasidic. My children live with their mother in the village of New Square, an all-Hasidic village in Rockland County. They remain reverently Hasidic. The central drama in the book is how to maintain my relationship with the children. That is really the most difficult part that I had grapple with — what is this going to do to my relationship with them?

**VO:** How did your lifestyle change when you made the jump to the secular world?

**SD:** My clothing style — obviously, I no longer wear a long coat and a black hat and side curls and all that. But more substantially, one of the main reasons I wanted to pursue

secular life was because I was interested in one of two things. One was a career in academia — teaching, researching, writing, things like that. The other was writing and publishing. I never did get into academia, but I did pursue a writing career. This is the main thing I’ve been pursuing since leaving.

**VO:** Do you think secular people will learn about the Hasidic community by reading about you learning about the secular world?

**SD:** I think it is important for people to read this book to see how Hasidic society is really formed from the inside. I think people really have a lot of misconceptions about the Hasidic world and don’t really understand why these societies are the way they are. I hope that my book will allow people to see both the good and the bad — but have a richer and deeper understanding of it.

Shulem Deen discusses “All Who Go Do Not Return” at BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 875–3677, www.bookcourt.com]. March 24 at 7 pm. Free.

### BIG MONEY & POLITICS: CAN YOUR VOICE COUNT?

#### A Community Town Hall

Wednesday, April 8, 7–9PM



IMAGE: EXPANSE/ALAMY.COM

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- o **Dick Dadey**, Executive Director of Citizens Union
- o **Al Vann**, former NY State Assemblyman and City Councilman
- o **Doug Henwood**, Economic Journalist and Author
- o **Ted Alexandro**, Comedian / Political Activist

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**Family ties:** Married musicians Leigh Anderson and Fran Leadon are recording covers of the original Carter Family’s entire output.

# Family to family

## Couple re-records every Carter Family song

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

This Brooklyn family will not let the circle be broken. A Cobble Hill musical couple is an attempting to systematically cover every song the original Carter Family ever put to record — with a little help from their friends. The duo said the Carter Family Project is not just about documenting the famous folk group’s tunes, but is also a collaborative effort that aims to show off the talent in Brooklyn’s vibrant bluegrass and country scene. “This is a snapshot of the scene at this time through the lens of the music of the Carter Family,” said bass player Leigh Anderson, one half of the project with husband Fran Leadon. “It is a way of showcasing this music scene.” The pair, who will perform at the Living Room in Williamsburg on March

20, said they chose the Carter Family because of its rich history and huge influence on roots music. “They are pretty much the first family of country and folk music,” said Anderson, who is originally from West Virginia. “Their body of work is where you have to start to understand bluegrass and folk.” The project focuses only on the original Carter Family trio of A.P. Carter, Maybelle Carter, and Sara Carter, who released 10 albums between 1927 and 1939. Anderson and Leadon do not currently plan to record the music of the family when it grew larger, including Maybelle Carter’s three daughters, one of whom was June Carter Cash. The project was born alongside the couple’s first child. The twosome said recording the Carter Family’s music with friends allowed them to stay in touch and stay active in the music business when it was hard to get out of

the house. Anderson and Leadon invite their musician friends over every Sunday during their kids’ nap time to eat lunch, practice the songs, and then record them. The duo and their pals have so far recorded six Carter Family Project albums over three and a half years, with each song recorded in chronological order. Anderson and Leadon said they sometimes let their collaborating compadres know ahead of time what songs they plan to lay down in the coming week, but friends often just show up and learn the tracks on the spot. “This way we can keep playing music, because it would be hard otherwise,” said Anderson. The Carter Family Project at the Living Room [134 Metropolitan Ave. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 782-6600, www.livingroomny.com]. March 20 at 8 pm. \$10.

Photo by Jason Speakman

# Recommended reading

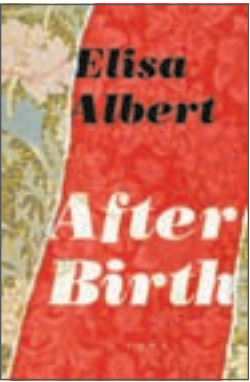
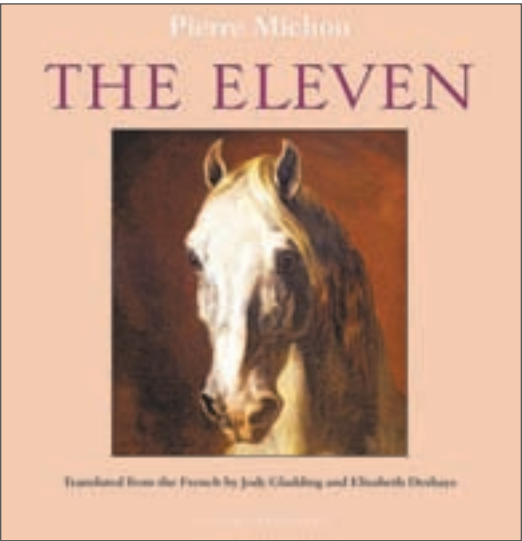
## Brooklyn booksellers give their top picks

### Word’s pick

**“After Birth” by Elisa Albert:** One of the most gloriously angry — and just plain glorious — novels I’ve ever read, “After Birth” left me breathless and madly impressed. Ari is a tired, lonely new mother whose life with baby is not the one she was sold. Mina is the very pregnant former riot grrl who moves in down the street. Their friendship is complicated, messy, honest, and fierce, and the story Albert weaves around them is equally intense. I rarely like to make promises about how you’ll think or feel after a novel, but I’m pretty sure few people could read this and look at motherhood the same way. — Molly Templeton, Word [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.word-brooklyn.com].

### Community’s pick

**“The Eleven” by Pierre Michon:** When does art become history and history become art? Those are the twin questions at the heart of Pierre Michon’s novella. Set around the Great Terror of the French Revolution, Michon’s mini-masterpiece uses a fictional painter and painting to explore the process by which a work



of art comes to represent its own era. An interest in history is a plus, but check that box and you’re in for some of the most breathtaking prose in contemporary French literature, here in a deft Archipelago Books translation. Fans of fake biographies, historical Apocrypha, and literary forgery, look no further. — Hal Hlavinka, Community Bookstore [43 Seventh Ave. between Carroll Street and Garfield Place in Park Slope, (718) 783-3075, www.communitybookstore.net].

### Greenlight’s pick

**“Signs Preceding the End of the World” by Yuri Herrera:** This new book from the awesome press & Other Stories will have you turning to the first page when you’re finished the last. It is a revolving door. Makina is sent by her mother to give her brother a message, but first she has to find him. Along the way, she is helped by different men, all men who are dangerous, but whom she knows are the only way to get across the border. — Jess Pane, Greenlight [686 Fulton St. between S. Elliott Place and S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200, www.greenlight-bookstore.com].

## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

### TUES, MARCH 24

**FILM, “CANNERS”:** Manfred Kirchheimer debuts his documentary on the men and women who collect cans in New York. Followed by a Q&A. \$14. 7 pm. BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org. **MUSIC, 28TH BIENNIAL INTERNATIONAL ELECTROACOUSTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Featuring the work of Russell Pinkston. Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn Col-

lege, Studio 312, Roosevelt Extension [2900 Bedford Ave. between Campus Road and Avenue I in Flatbush, (718) 951-5792], events.brooklyn.cuny.edu/cal.

### WED, MARCH 25

**TALK, “SAM WAGSTAFF, ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE, AND THE GAY SENSIBILITY”:** Photographer and Pratt Institute alumnus Philip Gefter discusses gay culture and photography. Free. 6:15 pm. Higgins Hall Auditorium, Pratt Institute [61 Saint James Pl. between Classon Avenue and Clifton Place in Clinton Hill, (718) 687-5639], www.pratt.edu/photo.

### THURS, MARCH 26

**TALK, GARDEN APOTHECARY — CUSTOM COOKING AND BATH SALTS:** Workshop on making custom salts. \$36. 6:30–8:30 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220], www.bbg.org. **TALK, “LOVE THY NEIGHBOR — BROOKLYN IN BLACK AND WHITE”:** A conversation about community, diversity, and ideas of commitment to social justice for the future of Brooklyn. Free. 7–9 pm. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], theoldstone-house.org.

### FRI, MARCH 27

**MUSIC, TELMARY:** Free. 9 pm. BAM Cafe [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and Saint Felix Street in Fort Greene], www.bam.org/programs/bamcafe-live.

### SAT, MARCH 28

**READING, TAD HILLS:** Children’s author shares his Duck and Goose stories. Free. 11 am. Barnes and Noble [267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066], www.barnesandnoble.com. **EASTER EGG HUNT:** Includes Easter bonnet contest for kids. Free. 2–4 pm. Marine Park [E. 33rd Street and Avenue U in Marine Park, (718) 238-6044].

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Greenpoint activist Rolf Carle is furious about cars parking across the sidewalk outside the Brooklyn Expo Center during events. Here he surveys the scene during the center’s downtime.

# Blocked this way

## Neighbors: Expo Center cars go rogue

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

Greenpoint’s new convention center is causing parking chaos, as vendors and guests are regularly taking up blocks of sidewalk with their cars, angry neighbors say.

The Brooklyn Expo Center opened last September at 79 Franklin St., and since then Franklin and Oak have been repeatedly clogged with illegally parked vehicles, which peeved locals say shows a lack of respect by the venue’s management.

“The trouble is starting already,” said Greenpoint gad-

fly Rolf Carle.

A Brooklyn Expo Center rep acknowledged that event attendees have been parking across the sidewalk, but claimed that it is not the business’s responsibility to stop them.

“It is definitely something we do not want happening,” said manager Michelle McConnell. “It is up to the police to do something about it. [The drivers] did not get any type of ticket or anything for doing it.”

The company now plans to hire more security to stop people from parking across

the sidewalk in the future, McConnell said.

One neighbor worried that the parking problems could endanger disabled people.

“It is hard enough for an able-bodied person to get down these streets. What will someone in a wheelchair do?” Shayla Poppel said.

“They should not be allowed to do this.”

The Expo Center’s main event space takes up an area equivalent to six basketball courts, making it the largest such facility in Brooklyn, and a separate five-story building next door is still



Patrons of the Brooklyn Expo Center park willy-nilly across the sidewalk.

# OFF THE POT?

## Crummy realizes that he wasn’t high all this time — the Nets are just that slow

Last July, Brooklyn top prosecutor Ken Thompson did a thing that made him a bit of a hero in pigeon circles. At the same time as his announcement that he would no longer prosecute humans for possession of small amounts of marijuana, he dispatched his bird community liaison, Beak Benson, to inform our kind that we would also be getting similar protections.

The reason for reaching out separately to the bird community on this topic was simple: we smoke whatever we can find. For years, Pigeon Law — if you’ve heard of Pigeon English, it’s like that, except with the law — has been ambiguous on what constitutes a drug offense. If we didn’t buy the product, roll it, and initially smoke it, who’s to say we can’t find a roach in the gutter and have ourselves a little night-cap? There



Forward Thaddeus Young dunks in his first game as a Net against his former team the Timberwolves, in Minneapolis on Monday.



are those among us who have built commercial enterprises out of reselling foraged bud, and the law is now focused mainly on cracking down on those ne’er-do-wells.

As for me, I stick mainly to nicotine sticks these days, but there was a time when your pal Crummy was practically chain-smoking left-handed cigarettes. As loyal readers know, my first wife left me after a drunken dispute with her brother that resulted in my right wing being hacked off. I began using a prosthetic wing, and the emotional and physical toll from the incident required something to take the edge off. I began buying from the aforementioned re-dealers, whose cobbled-together strains were branded with names like Mourning Dove Express, Friendly Finch, Hen Out of Hell, Claw of God, etc.

I went down that road for a while and, as you might imagine, spent a lot of nights on the couch watching bas-

ketball. What I found was that cannabis slowed the game down for me, allowing me to see the intricacy of the plays as if I had choreographed them myself — and often I was convinced I had. But in recent years, as I phased out the weed in favor of my old vices, I came to a realization: the marijuana wasn’t slowing down the game at all. I was just watching the Nets.

The Nets have been an epically slow basketball team. I began using a prosthetic wing, and the emotional and physical toll from the incident required something to take the edge off. I began buying from the aforementioned re-dealers, whose cobbled-together strains were branded with names like Mourning Dove Express, Friendly Finch, Hen Out of Hell, Claw of God, etc.

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the tanking Timberwolves featured a new-look Nets that offered some hope for the team’s future. Instead of lumbering around, our boys played fun, quick-thinking basketball. Former Net elder Kevin Garnett watched from the sidelines, having appropriately sat out the game for Minnesota with a sore right knee. Meanwhile, the young stud the Nets inexplicably got in exchange for him, Thad Young, dropped 19.

The Nets still have a long way to go to become a team that doesn’t lull at least a couple drunk birds to sleep in the rafters at Barclays on an average night. It won’t be easy to reinvent the roster without all the draft picks traded away in a failed attempt to get good fast, but Monday in Minnesota was an indication that Brooklyn’s squad might have the foundation of something, especially if it can get Young to return to Brooklyn next season. Maybe then I’ll finally take advantage of Mr. Thompson’s benevolence and scoop up some of the old Sparrow Kush to start dissecting the action again.



Bagpipers play on the move in the 40th Brooklyn Saint Patrick’s Day Parade.

# St. Pat’s in the Slope

By Noah Hurowitz  
The Brooklyn Paper

Hundreds of bagpipers, dancers, military veterans, and others in the Irish spirit marched in the Brooklyn Saint Patrick’s Day parade on March 15.

Starting at Bartel Pritchard Square in Windsor Terrace, the parade, in its 40th year, wound its way through Park

Slope, up Seventh Avenue, and back down Prospect Park West to its starting point. There many revelers nipped into Farrell’s Bar and Grill for a pint in a foam cup.

Saint Patrick’s Day itself took place on Tuesday, and many Brooklynites spent the rest of the week licking their wounds and getting ready for the Sunday

parade in Bay Ridge.

That parade rolls from Third Avenue at Marine Avenue, March 22 at 1 pm.



From left, Melissa O’Connel, Travis Pearson, Chris Castellano, and Gary Geefe take the party outside of classic Windsor Terrace Irish bar Farrell’s.

# Ken Burns talks Robinson doc

By Matthew Perlman  
The Brooklyn Paper

It was the shortest Ken Burns sequence in history.

The famously long-winded filmmaker, who was born in Brooklyn, talked shop with New York Times columnist Randy Kennedy at a fund-raising event for the Brooklyn Historical Society on March 10. They discussed Burns’s extensive body of work, which includes the 19-hour “Baseball,” the 19-hour “Jazz,” and the 11-hour “Civil War.” They also went over Burns’s current project, a documentary about Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Burns left the borough at a young age, but returned in the early 1980s to make his film



Ken Burns at a fund-raiser for the Brooklyn Historical Society on March 10.

about the Brooklyn Bridge, doing some research for the project at the Historical Society.

Burns is known for a technique called “the Ken Burns Effect,” which employs a moving crop to bring still images to life.

For video from the talk visit [www.brooklynpaper.com](http://www.brooklynpaper.com).

# EDITOR...

Continued from page 1

here to summer schedules and can have application deadlines a half year out — too late for my last semester, which I was spending as an exchange student in the exotic land of Flushing, Queens.

But on arrival, bouncing between couches and traipsing across the city in search of work and a place to stay, I realized that New York’s neighborhoods are served by an array of community newspapers with no comparable peers in any of the cities where I had lived. Of those, one stuck out for its irreverent, idiosyncratic voice: The Brooklyn Paper. Another feature that distinguished it from other publications was that when you looked to find the number for the editor on the website, it was right there.

My conversation with then-editor Gersh Kuntzman was brief, but I remember being struck by his enthusiasm for making the internship work. He instantly enrolled in the project of trying to identify where it would make sense for me to live, and which office in the paper’s Community News Group chain I’d be

able to commute to.

“Where are you going to stay? We’ve got to figure that out first,” he said.

I ended up subletting in Bedford-Stuyvesant, and opted to take an internship at another company in Queens, where the office was less of a detour on top of a daunting hour-each-way commute. That turned out to be a mistake, but in the years that followed I worked a public relations job and settled into the role of Brooklyn Paper reader. Gersh’s sex obsession, his enthusiasm for video, and his insistence on inserting himself into the story — all three of which combined climactically in the infamous real estate porn video that almost got him fired — gave the armchair psychologist in me plenty to mull over. But battles over bike lanes, geese, and big developments also came to life in the pages of the paper, and schooled me about the forces at work in the borough where I was trying to make it.

The paper was funny. It was bizarre. And beneath the gags and first-person pieces, it was a serious, community-oriented journalism

outfit covering the transformation of Brooklyn with a focus unmatched in the city’s shrinking metro press corps. It said more about what was happening on the block level in its neighborhoods than you could ever hope to find in one of the city’s dailies, with more resources and dedication to shoe-leather reporting than the neighborhood blogs it co-existed with.

Years passed, in which the paper was bought and sold, Gersh left and onetime Williamsburg reporter Ben Muesig returned to take over day-to-day editing duties, and a War on Brunch was fought and lost. I won’t bore you with the play-by-play, but when Ben left in the late spring of 2013, editor-in-chief Vince DiMiceli took a chance on me and brought me on as deputy editor. I didn’t see it coming, and it was a realization of a dream I hadn’t dared to have.

In the two years since, I have had the pleasure of working long hours with a dedicated team of staffers, characters in their own rights, to assemble the product that I admired for so long. Together, we have rushed headlong into the days’ events, piecing together the circumstances of fires as we pored

over property records and campaign finance forms, trying to make sense of calamity and bring the machinations of power from the shadows into the light. We documented the painful, for-profit dismantling of Long Island College Hospital. We were the only local news outlet to push back when the Police Department cut off the media’s access to the precinct crime blotters. And we had our own fun, proposing the replacement of the Nets’ mascot with a curmudgeonly pigeon named Crummy, and when the pitch was met with silence from Nets management, handing our basketball column space over to the fictional bird.

I’m writing all of this sappy stuff, of course, because I am leaving the paper, and itemizing what makes the newsroom a thrilling place to be has me missing it already. The accomplishments of the team I’m leaving behind are too plentiful and varied to itemize in this space, but I’ll just say that the camaraderie, intensity, and wit here are things I’ll carry with me.

And not that I’m an expert on the business, but I assure you that whenever I get a cold call from a young, aspiring reporter, I intend to pick up.

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The Atlantic Avenue Local Development Corporation (AALDC) has recently launched a Youth Community Scholarship Program. The goal of the program is to provide opportunities for youth to attend local programs that are enriching and foster economic development within the Brooklyn communities of Boerum Hill, Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill. The 2015 AALDC Summer Scholarships are open to children ages 4 to 18 that live or attend schools within Brooklyn Public School Districts 13 or 15. Priority scholarships will be awarded to low-income applicants; families with limited financial resources are also encouraged to apply. The number of scholarships awarded will be based on available funding and program space availability. The deadline to apply is April 16, 2015.

AALDC's 2015 Summer Scholarship Program partners are Mathnasium of Brooklyn Heights, Brooklyn Ballet, WMA Karate, Mission Martial Arts and Mark Morris Dance Group.

For more information on how you can donate to the AALDC Youth Community Scholarship Program and applications for the 2015 Summer Scholarships, please visit <http://www.atlanticave.org> or contact:

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For more information on the AALDC's 2015 Summer Scholarship Program partners, please visit:

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# Stuck in park

## W’burg, G’point residents take their fight to City Hall

**By Danielle Furfaro**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

More than 300 protesters rallied outside City Hall on March 12 to demand the city make good on its decade-old promise to turn a waterfront plot in Williamsburg into parkland.

Many in the crowd, so big that officers forced late arrivals to wait outside the barricades, said they feel crowded in Williamsburg and Greenpoint, where waterfront parks were supposed to ease the burden of the towers allowed by a 2005 rezoning. Some parks have been built and others are under construction, but Bushwick Inlet Park remains incomplete. The burning of a CitiStorage warehouse on Kent Avenue in late January and into early February sparked renewed calls for the city to buy the property and convert it to green space.

“I have lived here my whole life and there has never been enough open space,” said Slade Koval of Williamsburg. “This rally might be a way to finally change that.”

So far, the city has created less than a quarter of



Photos by Stefano Giovannini

(Left) Rally organizer Dewey Thompson outside of City Hall with hundreds of protesters demanding the city buy the land to complete Bushwick Inlet Park in Williamsburg. (Right) Councilman Steve Levin nearly lost his voice riling up the crowd.

the 19 football fields of parkland the neighborhoods were promised.

Residents and politicians at the demonstration said that is unacceptable.

“This is not just a promise. It is a moral obligation and a human right,” said Luis Garden Acosta, founder and president of the community group El Puente. “We need this. It is not just a luxury.”

Increased property values driven by the area’s zoning-enabled development boom make buying the waterfront lots a tall order. At the time that the city made the commitment, the CitiStorage plot was worth about \$30 million. A decade later, the value of the land is likely somewhere between \$73 million and \$100 million. The city needs to act fast, according to Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D–Williamsburg), or more developers will put up skyscrapers that are even harder to buy than the industrial buildings that still occupy some waterfront properties.

“We are facing an unbroken wall of towers on the waterfront,” she said. “This is our last chance to stop that from happening.”

The area’s assemblyman said that price concerns are a cop-out, and that Mayor DeBlasio needs to drop the cash.

“I know he is going to try to blame this on the Bloomberg administration, saying it is too expensive,” Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D–Greenpoint) said of DeBlasio. “I do not care if it was a prior administration, and I do not care how much it costs. The mayor has to live up to the city’s promise.”

The winter’s first period of above-freezing weather in months was accompanied by a rash of outdoor demonstrations, including many against Gov. Cuomo’s education measures outside schools across Brooklyn and one against the eviction of Williamsburg’s Swinging Sixties Senior Center outside Brooklyn Supreme Court, all on the morning of March 12. One advocating for the city to make Lunar New Year a school holiday took place on the City Hall steps the following day.

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BROOKLYN GARAGE FOR RENT

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, sexual orientation or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

BROOKLYN APT UNFURN

Prospect Park South  
Overlooking park.  
6 modern rooms, 3  
bedrooms. \$2600. Electric  
included. ALSO  
1 extra large bdrm plus terrace.  
12th floor. Doorman building.  
\$1800 Essie 718-646-0082  
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HOMES R  
BEAUTIFUL Real Estate  
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The Brooklyn Paper

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718-260-2588

JOB INFORMATION

Leticia James Warns  
Consumers About  
Classified Ads  
Toll numbers may be  
a direct line to trouble.

Classified ads are intended to help people by facilitating communication and advertising available services; however, some of the hotlines & service numbers in classifieds actually hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. My number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee beyond a local call. In some instances, ads initially advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all information & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party."

Office of the  
Public Advocate

ADOPTION

ADOPT: A dream is a wish your heart makes, our wish is a baby to love. We're loving, educated, close family. Expenses paid. Danmy/ Lorraine 1-866-997-7171

ADOPTION: A childless young married couple, hands on mom/ devoted dad (she-31/ he-37) seeks to adopt. Financial security, expenses paid. Call/ text Mary & Adam 1-800-790-5260

ADOPT: Loving family of three seeking baby or toddler to cherish forever. Mom/Dad are teachers. Close extended families. Contact Robin/Neil: 866-303-0668 646-467-0499 www.rnadopt.info robin.neil.lucy@gmail.com

HELP WANTED

Driver Wanted  
CDL Class B.  
Good salary  
+ benefits.  
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Call 718-251-2500  
Ask for Scott

JOB INFORMATION

AIRLINE CAREERS begin here Get FAA approved Aviation Maintenance Technician training. Financial aid for qualified students - Housing available. Job placement assistance. Call AIM 866-296-7093

Miscellaneous

PUBLIC NOTICES

El Departamento de Conservación Ambiental del Estado de Nueva York (DEC, por su sigla en ingles) ha recibido una solicitud de Programa de Limpieza de Brownfield (BCP, por su sigla en ingles) y un proyecto de plan de trabajo sobre investigación de saneamiento de Flushing Stewart LLC para un lugar conocido como Former Universal Scrap Metal Processors Corp., cuyo código de identificación de sitio es C224210. Este lugar se encuentra en el distrito de Brooklyn, dentro del condado de Kings, y esta ubicado en 1181 Flushing Avenue. Los comentarios referentes a esta solicitud y a este plan de trabajo deberán enviarse hasta el 24 de abril de 2015. Se puede encontrar información sobre el lugar y la solicitud y respecto de como enviar comentarios en [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html) También se pueden enviar comentarios a Kyle Forster, Project Manager, NYS DEC, Division of Environmental Remediation - Bureau B, 625 Broadway-12th Flr, Albany, NY 12233-7015, [Kyle.Forster@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Kyle.Forster@dec.ny.gov) o llamar al 518-402-9767. Para recibir información, como por ejemplo esta notificación, directamente en su correo electrónico, registre en las listas de distribución de correo electrónico del condado disponibles en [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html)

PUBLIC NOTICES

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received a Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) application and Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan from Flushing Stewart LLC for a site known as the Former Universal Scrap Metal Processors Corp., site ID #C224210. This site is located in the Borough of Brooklyn, within the County of Kings, and is located at 1181 Flushing Avenue. Comments regarding this application and work plan must be submitted no later than April 24, 2015. Information regarding the site, the application, and how to submit comments can be found at: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html) or send comments to Kyle Forster, Project Manager, NYS DEC, Division of Environmental Remediation - Bureau B, 625 Broadway-12th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-7015, [Kyle.Forster@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Kyle.Forster@dec.ny.gov) or 518-402-9767. To have information such as this notice sent right to your email, sign up with county email listservs available at [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html)

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CASH for Coins! Buying Gold & Silver. Also Stamps, Paper Money, Comics, Entire Collections, Estates. Travel to your home. Call Marc in NY: 1-800-959-3419

AUCTION

Live Simulcast Bankruptcy Auction Case 13-10157, Hayes Iron & Metal, Inc. Office Bldg., Metal Frame Bldgs, Workshop, Shop Equip., Tools, Office Furnishings & Equip., Providence, NC. 3/26/15 at 10am. Auction at The Institute Conference Center Barkhouser Auditorium, Danville, VA. 800-997-2248, NCAL3936/VAAL580. [www.ironhorseauction.com](http://www.ironhorseauction.com)

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Find What You Are Looking for Right Here in Our classified Pages

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HOMES R  
BEAUTIFUL Real Estate  
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BROOKLYN HOUSES FOR SALE

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AUCTION CHEMUNG COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAX FORECLOSURES- 100+ Properties March 25 @11AM. Holiday Inn, Elmira, NY. 800-243-0061 HAR, Inc. & AAR, Inc. Free brochure: [www.NYSAUCTIONS.com](http://www.NYSAUCTIONS.com)

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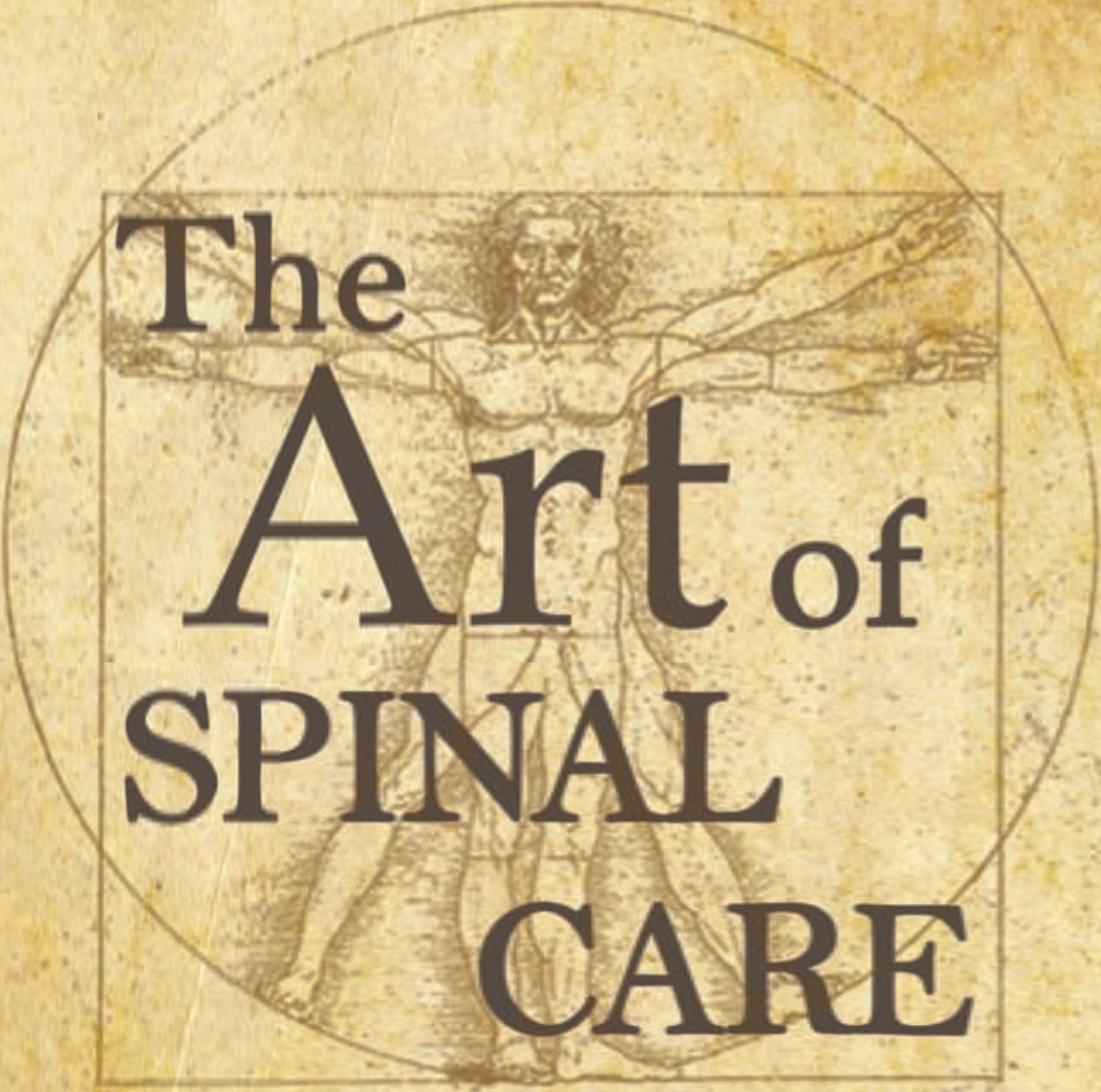
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